

By Ron Wilson

H. B. No. 296

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain powers and duties of the Commission on Human Rights regarding civil rights, and to the creation of the Texas Committee on Civil Rights.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 1.02, Commission on Human Rights Act (Article 5221k, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1.02. PURPOSES. The general purposes of this Act are to:

(1) ~~[to]~~ provide for the execution of the policies embodied in Title VII of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964~~[,--as amended]~~ (42 U.S.C. Section 2000e et seq.), and to create an authority that meets the criteria under 42 U.S.C. Section 2000e-5(c) and 29 U.S.C. Section 633; ~~[and]~~

(2) ~~[to]~~ secure for persons within the state freedom from discrimination in certain transactions concerning employment, and thereby to protect their interest in personal dignity; and to make available to the state their full productive capacities, to secure the state against domestic strife and unrest, to preserve the public safety, health, and general welfare, and to promote the interests, rights, and privileges of individuals within the state; and

(3) foster full equality among the citizens of this

1 state in all areas of endeavor by examining the relations among the
2 various racial and ethnic groups of this state and making
3 recommendations for improvement.

4 SECTION 2. The Commission on Human Rights Act (Article
5 5221k, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) is amended by adding Article
6 11 to read as follows:

7 ARTICLE 11. CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE

8 Sec. 11.01. COMMITTEE. (a) The Texas Committee on Civil
9 Rights is an advisory body to the commission.

10 (b) The committee is composed of 12 members appointed by the
11 governor with the advice and consent of the senate. To be eligible
12 for appointment, a person must have demonstrated experience and
13 concern with civil rights issues. In making appointments to the
14 committee, the governor shall attempt to ensure representation of
15 handicapped persons, women, elderly persons, and persons who are
16 members of the various racial and ethnic groups of this state.

17 (c) Members of the committee serve for staggered terms of
18 six years, with the terms of four members expiring February 1 of
19 each odd-numbered year. If a vacancy occurs, the governor shall
20 appoint a replacement, who meets the qualifications of the vacated
21 position, to fill the unexpired portion of the term.

22 (d) A member of the committee is not entitled to
23 compensation for serving on the committee. A member is entitled to
24 reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in
25 performing functions as a member of the committee.

26 (e) A member of the committee is not liable to civil action
27 for any act performed in good faith in the execution of duties as a

1 committee member.

2 Sec. 11.02. COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The committee
3 shall conduct comparative studies to examine how the citizens of
4 the various racial, ethnic, and other groups of this state who have
5 suffered past discrimination fare in terms of health, employment,
6 education, housing, and other similar factors. At the direction of
7 the commission, the committee may conduct other research relating
8 to civil rights issues in this state.

9 (b) The committee shall report its findings to the
10 commission and shall publish its findings in a biennial report to
11 the legislature. The report may include any recommendations
12 approved by the commission for legislation that the committee
13 determines to be necessary to enhance the civil rights of the
14 citizens of this state.

15 SECTION 3. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 1989.

16 (b) The Texas Committee on Civil Rights is created on the
17 effective date of this Act.

18 (c) In making the initial appointments to the Texas
19 Committee on Civil Rights, the governor shall appoint four members
20 for terms expiring in 1991, four members for terms expiring in
21 1993, and four members for terms expiring in 1995.

22 SECTION 4. The importance of this legislation and the
23 crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an
24 emergency and an imperative public necessity that the
25 constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several
26 days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

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JAN 3 1989

1. Filed with the Chief Clerk.

JAN 31 1989

2. Read first time and Referred to Committee on

Government Organization

3. Reported favorably (as amended) (as substituted) and sent to Printer at _____

4. Printed and distributed at _____

5. Sent to Committee on Calendars at _____

6. Read second time (amended); passed to third reading (failed) by (Non-Record Vote) (Record Vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting).

7. Motion to reconsider and table the vote by which H.B. _____ was ordered engrossed prevailed (failed) by a (Non-Record Vote) (Record Vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, and _____ present, not voting).

8. Constitutional Rule requiring bills to be read on three several days suspended (failed to suspend) by a four-fifths vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, and _____ present, not voting.

9. Read third time (amended); finally passed (failed) by (Non-Record Vote) (Record Vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting).

10. Caption ordered amended to conform to body of bill.

11. Motion to reconsider and table the vote by which H. B. _____ was finally passed prevailed (failed) by a (Non-Record Vote) (Record Vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, and _____ present, not voting).

12. Ordered Engrossed at _____

13. Engrossed.

14. Returned to Chief Clerk at _____

15. Sent to Senate.

Chief Clerk of the House

16. Received from the House

17. Read, referred to Committee on _____

18. Reported favorably

19. Reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute; Committee Substitute read first time.

20. Ordered not printed.

21. Regular order of business suspended by (a viva voce vote.) (_____ yeas, _____ nays.)

_____ 22. To permit consideration, reading and passage, Senate and Constitutional Rules
suspended by vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays.

_____ 23. Read second time _____ passed to third reading by:
(a viva voce vote.)
(_____ yeas, _____ nays.)

_____ 24. Caption ordered amended to conform to body of bill.

_____ 25. Senate and Constitutional 3-Day Rules suspended by vote of _____ yeas,
_____ nays to place bill on third reading and final passage.

_____ 26. Read third time and passed by
(a viva voce vote.)
(_____ yeas, _____ nays.)

OTHER ACTION: OTHER ACTION:

Secretary of the Senate

_____ 27. Returned to the House.

_____ 28. Received from the Senate (with amendments.)
(as substituted.)

_____ 29. House (Concurred) (Refused to Concur) in Senate (Amendments) by a (Non-Record
(Substitute) Vote) (Record Vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present,
not voting).

_____ 30. Conference Committee Ordered.

_____ 31. Conference Committee Report Adopted (Rejected) by a (Non-Record Vote) (Record
Vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, and _____ present, not voting).

_____ 32. Ordered Enrolled at _____